

## Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 CIAE-00 PM-07

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 DODE-00 ACDA-19 OMB-01 DRC-01 /129 W

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R 051620Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3316

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 1750

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NL, NATO

SUBJ: FONMIN SPEAKS AT NATO ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN THE HAGUE

1. SUMMARY: IN PRINCIPAL ADDRESS AT NATO 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL STATED THAT NO ALTERNATIVE TO NATO AND ITS DISSOLUTION WOULD HAVE DESTABILIZING EFFECT AND ENDANGER EUROPEAN SECURITY. FONMIN ARGUED, HOWEVER, NATO NEEDED RENEWAL. HE ALSO STRESSED TRADITIONAL GON CONCERN OVER LACK OF DEMOCRACY IN SOME NATO MEMBERS STATES (SEPTTEL). VAN DER STOEL DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION TO UNCLASSIFIED

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EUROPEAN-US RELATIONSHIP (SEPTTEL) AND

GENERALLY SUPPORTED US STANDPOINT ON US-EUROPEAN CONSULTATIONS. CELEBRATION SOMEWHAT SOMBER DUE DEATH OF PRESIDENT POMPIDOU. RIDDERZAAL IN BINNENHOF WHERE CELEBRATION HELD HEAVILY GUARDED BY POLICE, BUT ONLY SMALL NUMBER OF ANTI-NATO DEMONSTRATORS APPEARED. END SUMMARY.

2. 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATO WAS OBSERVED IN THE HAGUE AFTERNOON APRIL 4 IN CEREMONY IN HISTORIC RIDDERZAAL (HALL OF THE KNIGHTS). FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL AND FORMER NATO AMBASSADOR SPIERENBURG GAVE PRINCIPAL SPEECHES. QUEEN JULIANA (IN BLACK FOR POMPIDOU) ATTENDED AS DID FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER AND NATO SECRETARY GENERAL STIKKER, CABINET, MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND NATO AMBASSADORS.

3. FOREIGN MINISTER BEGAN BY POSING TWO RHETORICAL QUESTIONS: A) DOES NATO STILL FULFILL NECESSARY FUNCTIONS AND B) WHAT WOULD HAPPEN SHOULD NATO DISAPPEAR. HE ANSWERED THAT NATO BE DISSOLVED SOVIET UNION COULD DIRECT DEVELOPMENTS IN WEST EUROPE ALONG LINE CONGRUENT WITH ITS INTERESTS EVEN WITHOUT RESORTING TO FORCE. GIVEN THIS POSSIBILITY WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WOULD BE FORCED TO FORM NEW ALLIANCE. TO BE CREDIBLE IT WOULD REQUIRE INDEPENDENT NUCLEAR FORCE. THIS WOULD ONLY INCREASE TENSIONS BETWEEN EAST AND WEST. THEREFORE, VAN DER STOEL CONCLUDED, NATO'S DISSOLUTION WOULD HAVE DANGEROUSLY DESTABILIZING EFFECT.

4. ADVERTING TO YOUTH DISENCHANTMENT WITH NATO, VAN DER STOEL WARNED THAT ONE COULD NOT LIVE IN THE PAST. AN ORGANIZATION MUST BE ABLE TO RENEW ITSELF OR PERISH. THE FONMIN POINTED OUT THAT NATO WHICH HAD BEGUN AS A TRADITIONAL ALLIANCE FOR SECURITY AND COLLECTIVE DEFENSE HAD NOW BECOME AN INSTRUMENT OF DETENTE AND A FORUM FOR COLLECTIVE DECISION MAKING ON ISSUES IN CRUCIAL NEGOTIATIONS SUCH AS MBFR AND CSCE. NOTING THAT FOR THE LAST 25 YEARS PEACE IN EUROPE HAD BEEN BASED ON A MUTUAL BALANCE OF TERROR, THE FONMIN SAID UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT NEGOTIATIONS IN VIENNA AND GENEVA AIM AT ESTABLISHING PEACE ON A MORE RATIONAL BASIS. HE EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, MUTUAL SECURITY WOULD CONTINUE TO BE VITALLY IMPORTANT TO BOTH EAST AND WEST. REMARKING ON YOUNG PEOPLE'S DESIRE FOR SPEEDIER DETENTE PROGRESS AND REALLOCATION OF DEFENSE MONIES TO THIRD WORLD, ETC. VAN DER STOEL WARNED IMPATIENCE COULD LEAD TO IMPRUDENT ACTION.

5. FOREIGN MINISTER THEN TURNED TO RELATIONS WITHIN NATO PARTICULARLY RELATIONS BETWEEN EUROPE AND THE US. HE CONTESTED CLAIM US WAS SEEKING VETO POWER IN EUROPEAN DECISION MAKING PROCESS AND UNDERScoreD ESSENTIALLY OF US ROLE IN GUARANTEEING EUROPEAN SECURITY. COMPLETE TEXT OF VAN DER STOEL'S COMMENTS THIS TOPIC SEPTEL.

6. FONMIN THEN TOOK UP QUESTION OF DEMOCRACY IN NATO MEMBER STATES, TAKING LINE UNDEMOCRATIC REGIMES "GNAWING AT ALLIANCE CREDIBILITY." (SEPTEL)

7. MINISTER ENDED HIS ADDRESS BY REITERATING THAT ANY OF THE SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVES FOR NATO ENTAILED GREATER RISKS FOR EUROPEAN PEACE AND SECURITY THAN NATO ITSELF. HE WARNED ABOUT ATTEMPTING TO GIVE NATO ANY NEW DIMENSIONS (ALLUSION TO CCMS) AND ABOUT VIEWING IT ONLY AS MILITARY ALLIANCE SINCE IT MUST PLAY ACTIVE PEACE ROLE IN DETENTE PROGRESS. FONMIN REJECTED CONCEPT OF NEW DUTCH NEUTRALISM, SAYING WHILE THIS WOULD BE EASY ENOUGH, IT WOULD PUT NETHERLANDS " OUT OF PLAY" AND MAKE IMPOSSIBLE THE DYNAMIC AND ACTIVE PEACE POLICY WHICH GIVES NETHERLANDS REAL INFLUENCE IN THE WORLD.

8. NATO ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE PRESS COVERAGE IN ALL MORNING PAPERS APRIL 5 AND ALSO ON APRIL 4 TV BROADCASTS. THERE WAS SOME EDITORIAL COMMENT TOO WITH LINE TAKEN SIMILAR TO THAT ESPOUSED BY FOREIGN MINISTER, I.E. NATO HAD DRAWBACKS BUT THERE STILL NO CREDIBLE ALTERNATIVE TO ALLIANCE. GOULD

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